

PHENOMENA

The Official UPIA & MAPIT Update

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IN THE PRESS
LATEST INVESTIGATIONS
SNOW FORMATIONS
MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN

THE TRUMBLE COUNTY UFO INCIDENT

2012 EXPLAINED : WHY IT SHOULDN'T BE FEARED

THE GRAVEYARD SHIFT
THE LIMITS OF A PAPER TRAIL
MORE STAR JELLY
AND MUCH MUCH MORE



MAPIT COPYRIGHT 2010

Editorial...

Well, as one year ends another one starts. Lets hope 2010 is a productive one for all those that participate in the scientific study of anomalous phenomena... A number of new changes have come to UPIA in the new year which include board meetings, on-site training sessions, research projects, team building events and refreshed protocols.

December went out with a bang! Two main events obtained international coverage. The first being a strange swirling mass seen in the sky over Norway and the second being a pyramid shaped object filmed in the sky over Moscow. The incident that took place in Norway was photographed and filmed by residents who were stunned as they watched a plume develop in the sky of which a light source came out from and began to swirl in a clockwise fashion. Such things are rare but have been seen before. In a few cases a light source has been seen coming out of the plume and travelling across the sky. Numerous investigators and researchers have coined the phenomenon 'UFO Wormholes', but as to what they really are remains a mystery. I'm sure as time goes by this relatively new phenomenon will become more popular, even if it has a rational explanation.

As for the pyramid shaped object filmed in the skies above Moscow, I believe there have only been a couple of video tapes of this event, when in fact I would have thought there would have been more, especially that it was seen over the city capital. The lack of film and photographs makes me a little suspicious, but hey! You never know... It could be something quite strange. Personally, I would not comment on the footage at this time...

I can also confirm that December had a number of light festivals which incorporated a number of Chinese lanterns which of course... Set off the residents of Manchester into thinking they had been visited by aliens. So many people were convinced that the lanterns were some form of extraterrestrial visitation and came out with that famous one-liner ('it was moving too fast to be a lantern') when you know that what they watched was nothing more than a lantern traversing across the sky. Yes UFOs can travel in the same direction as the wind, and can travel reasonably slow and look to be an incandescent orange / white colour and if this is the case then there is no clear way of identifying or pre-concluding that it is not a Chinese Lantern...

Also, I'd like to introduce a new satellite organisation of MAPIT known as the LPIA : Lancashire Paranormal Investigation Association. There web site is undergoing construction at <http://www.LPIA.kk5.org> Further details in regards membership, training etc will be available in the near future. Accompanying the launch of LPIA is the launch of the AITC (Advanced Investigators Training Course) level 2. Further details and syllabus is available on the MAPIT website at: <http://www.MAPIT.kk5.org>

Now working on our tenth issue I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our contributors to the magazine. Unfortunately there are not many publications available on the subject of the paranormal or UFOs. We have seen a decrease in publications over the years and hope to encourage others to produce their own magazines or flyers in hope of exchanging information.

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and wish you all a productive 2010...

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Star Jelly : What is it?



Some people claim that it is manna from heaven, first sent down by God to feed the children of Israel. Others, more prosaically, say that it is stag semen. Alternative theories for the origins of "star jelly", a strange mucous substance found on the Scottish hills in the autumn abound. Could it be the remnants of a meteor shower, regurgitated frogspawn, fungus - or, less romantically, the gel from disposable nappies? Is it evidence of extraterrestrial life, or perhaps the fallout from top-secret attempts by scientists to manipulate the weather? Whatever the truth of the matter - and no one really knows - the debate about the origins of the jelly has reached fever pitch.

Initiated by the BBC Radio Scotland programme *Out of Doors*, which has recorded half a million hits on its website, there is now international interest in solving one of the most enduring of natural mysteries. Hundreds of theories have come in from around the world, and a film crew from *National Geographic* has arrived in Scotland to record the evidence. People have reported finding star jelly all over the UK, in fields, in urban back gardens and in the mountains. There are also accounts of it in Australia and America.

The jelly, or pwdre ser (Welsh for rot of the stars), has been mentioned in literature since the 17th century. John Dryden wrote in 1679: "When I had taken up what I supposed a fallen star I found I had been cozened with a jelly." *Out of Doors* asked experts at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh to examine samples of the jelly. Hans Sluiman, an algae expert, told the programme that he was convinced that the gel was not a plant or animal. Andy Taylor, a scientist at the Macaulay Institute in Aberdeen, said that there were fungus filaments in the slime but believed they were growing in the gloop rather than creating it.

Dr Taylor also ran DNA tests on a sample, but the results were inconclusive. "We just don't know," he said. One of the most plausible theories is that star jelly is regurgitated frog or toad ovaries, vomited by buzzards or herons as it is indigestible. The fact that the gel is sometimes found on the top of fence posts supports this theory. Another suggestion is that it is unfertilised frog spawn. But the idea that it comes from rutting stags is debunked by its discovery in inaccessible places. As a contributor to the website put it: "If it's stags' semen, I'd love to know how it got on top of my tractor today. It was raining heavily."

Scientists commissioned by National Geographic carried out tests on samples found in the United States, where there is anecdotal evidence of jelly raining down, but they have so far failed to find any DNA in it. This rather invalidates the regurgitation theories, as anything from an animal's stomach, be it a heron or a badger, would contain trace elements of DNA.

In some cases, people have reported finding large piles - enough to fill a wheelbarrow - which would rule out single animals. Euan McIlwraith, the presenter of *Out of Doors*, said: "It's a case of Nature 1, Science 0 at the moment, which I really like." The Scottish jelly hunt began a year ago, when a listener contacted the programme. "We heard from someone who had it in his fridge, so I took it to the Botanics," Mr McIlwraith said. "But they came up with nothing and the mystery deepened.

"The Macaulay thought it might be from frog ovaries, and we found a frog which had been partially dissected by a heron, and we thought we had a match. We were kind of happy with that, but the lack of DNA evidence was puzzling. "Basically where we are is back at square one. We're waiting to see what the National Geographic tests come up with. There are all kinds of other theories, that it's gel from nappies thrown out of jumbo jets, or the gel used to seed hurricanes.

"I'm still inclined to believe the explanation is natural. I quite like the thought that nobody has got an answer. The forensic scientists have complete faith in DNA and yet the jelly has been around for hundreds of years and they can't find any answers. We're running out of scientists to go to now."

2012 EXPLAINED: WHY IS SHOULDN'T BE FEARED!

BY BEN TREMBLAY.

Before you read this article, here is are a few facts. I have researched about 2012 and how people build businesses around it to make money. While a lot of people say that you can't trust NASA or the government because they would certainly hide this 2012 stuff from us, I say there are a lot of people who want to spread this because they make money out of it. So, in the end, who do we trust?

The year 2012 is referring to the last year of the Long Count Maya calendar. The current Great Cycle, as the Mayas call it, is set to end on the winter solstice of 2012: December 21 2012 and many people believe that on that date, the world will change and never be the same. Some predict terrible events resulting in the destruction of our world and some predict that it won't necessarily end, but that we will enter a new era and massive changes will occur. This article will try to answer most questions you may have in a rational way. because there are way too many websites creating some sort of fear propaganda around 2012 and as you will see, you have nothing to be scared of. There's too much disinformation going on about this subject.

There have been a lot going on regarding the 2012 prophecy recently, including the movies like "I am legend" and "2012", but surprisingly, not much information about what is really supposed to happen on that date is available. This is Probably because nobody knows and also because probably not much will happen. Most information available about 2012 is making reference to mass destruction of the world as we know it, earth's pole shift / magnetic field reversal, Nostradamus predictions, end of Mayas calendar, etc. The base of all the predictions is the end of the Maya calendar in 2012, which is supposed to mean the end of the world or a period of radical changes. In fact, the end of the Maya calendar is known as the end of the Great Cycle. People find it easy to believe in that theory because Maya civilisation is known for advanced writing, mathematics and astronomy. It can seem like they really know what they're talking about, but the truth is that the end of the Great Cycle is not the end of the world, it's in fact a great celebration for the Mayas: For the ancient Maya, it was a huge celebration to make it to the end of a whole cycle" says Sandra Noble, executive director of the Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies in Crystal River, Fla. To render Dec. 21, 2012, as a doomsday or moment of cosmic shifting, she says, is "a complete fabrication and a chance for a lot of people to cash in."



On the winter solstice in 2012, the sun will be aligned with the center of the Milky Way for the first time in about 26,000 years. The Milky Way is one of billions of galaxies in the observable universe. The Galaxy has special significance to humanity as it is the home galaxy of the planet Earth. This special alignment means that the usual energy that typically streams to Earth from the center of the Milky Way will indeed be disrupted on 12/21/12 2012 at 11:11 p.m. Universal Time.

Scientists are actually in great doubt about the fact that the Mayas even knew what they were talking about. Astronomers generally agree that "it would be impossible the Maya themselves would have known that" says Susan Milbrath, a Maya archaeoastronomer and a curator at the Florida Museum of Natural History. What's more, she says, "we have no record or knowledge that they would think the world would come to an end at that point." Putting apart scientific data, here are the commons beliefs of the December 21 2012:

Galactic Alignment. This Galactic Alignment occurs only once every 26,000, this is considered as the end-date in the Mayans Long Count calender. It is the alignment of the December solstice sun with the Galactic equator. / A comet hitting Earth. / Earth's Pole Shift / Magnetic field reversal. Increase of calamities, natural disasters, mass destruction, etc. / The beginning of the Ice Age.

I don't want to repeat myself, but all of this is very vague as nobody really knows what will happen, and taking into consideration the world is not at its first doomsday prophecy. There have been a lot of "Unfulfilled" prophecies in the past. What I find quite interesting about the 2012 theory is that there's not much publications from well respected scientific organisations. NASA has published a couple of articles about the pole shift, but nothing else that could reveal a certain fear of the end of the world. Now you could argue that "big organisations" certainly wouldn't reveal anything that has to do with the end of the world, but that's another debate.



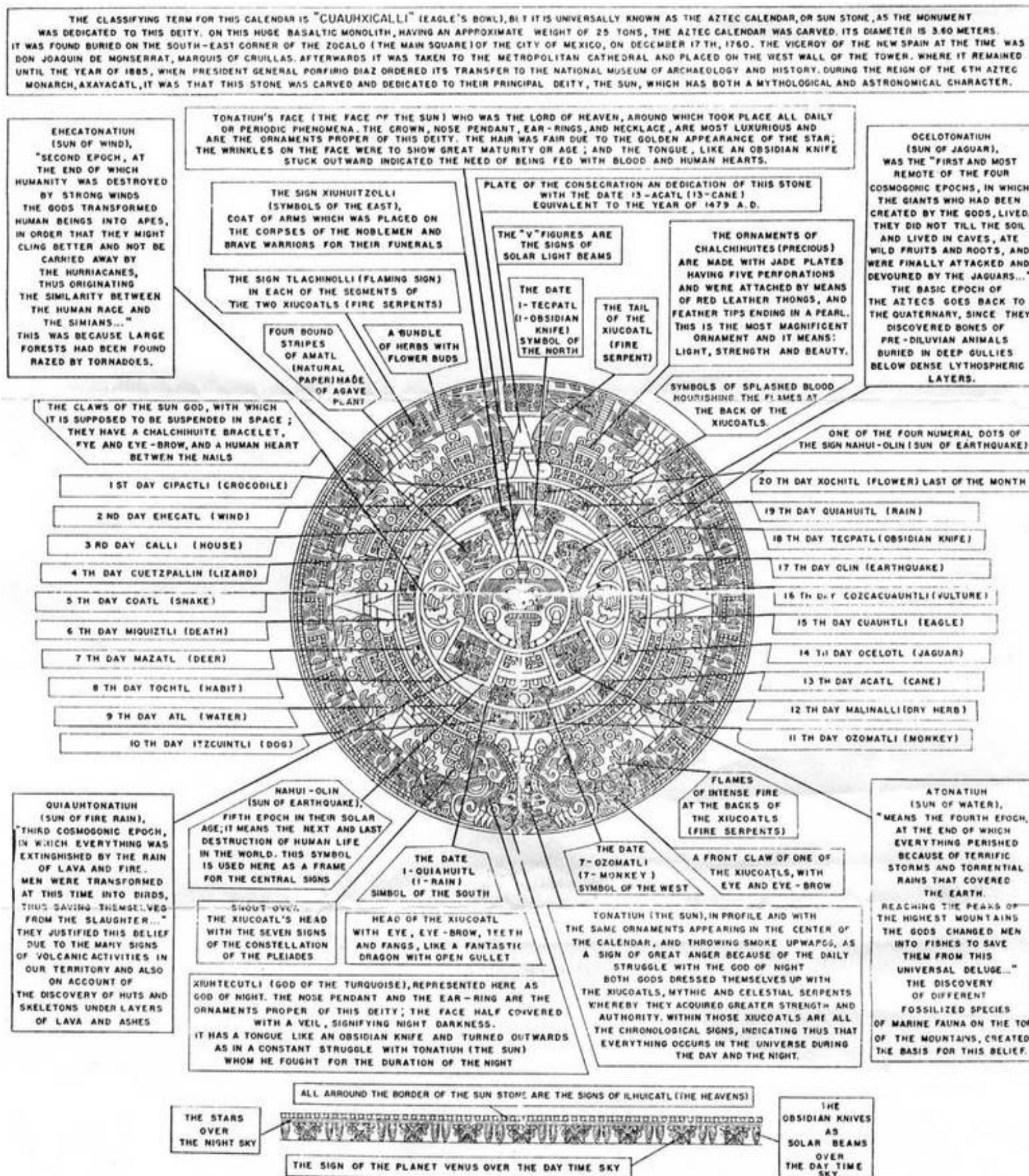
I mentioned in the "What will happen" section that there's a lack of scientific information coming from well respected sources like NASA. Some people claim there's a conspiracy theory behind the prophecy to hide it from the public so it doesn't create mass panic. Now, this does and doesn't make sense. At first, it sounds like it could be true because I totally agree the government could restrain publications from NASA as it's a governmental agency, but I find it weird that this kind of information wouldn't "leak". Do you really think something as big as the end of the world wouldn't leak from any agency? Keep the NASA apart, do you really think the scientific community would miss something as big as that? When there's no scientific data about a subject, you really have to doubt. You've probably read a lot of information on websites from people claiming they know more than they should know and that the government is hiding all this information from you. The Government is hiding a lot of things from you, more than you probably imagine and they would probably try to hide the end of the world if it was going to happen. But, let's picture this: The Mayas were there 1000 years before Christ which makes it about 3000 years from now. Do you think someone could hide the end of the world for 3000 years if it was really going to happen and was really that possible and scientific? I have my doubts...

The only rational "2012 End of world" possibility is actually pole shifting. A Pole shift is a rare phenomenon and is characterised by the North and the South poles swapping places. Such reversals, recorded in the magnetism of ancient rocks, are unpredictable. They come at irregular intervals averaging about 300,000 years; the last one was 780,000 years ago. Such an event could really disrupt our planet that's true. Imagine the North pole and South pole swapping places: Telecommunications, animals, humans, etc. would all be affected and it would be a really important change.

There's only one thing you need to consider... I've read in a lot of different places that a polar shift is going to happen on December 21 2012 and it is totally false: Polar shift is a process that roughly takes 5,000 years to complete and doesn't start on a specific date and time. The real truth is that nobody knows when the next one is due. The process takes time and another myth is that the shift requires the earth's magnetic field strength to be near zero during that transition time. Not true. It would actually be as strong as it is now but simply a lot more complicated. On December 21 2012, a comet won't hit the earth, a pole shift won't happen instantly and a massive gravity burst won't happen either. The only thing you can fear is a pole shift and it can take up to 5,000 years to complete...



In the case that I am wrong, that every scientist on this planet is wrong and that NASA can't figure out a simple galactic alignment that would put our world to an end then I guess we are all in the same situation. You, me and everyone may die. Scary isn't it? Well, no one can tell what will happen tomorrow or in 2012. So its time to start looking at this whole 2012 subject in a different light.



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THE TRUBULL COUNTY UFO INCIDENT

BY KENNY YOUNG.

It can be demonstrated that police departments across Ohio are more reluctant than ever to associate their departments or officers with alleged UFO occurrences, and understandably so. Those armed with the "badge of truth" often do not relish their position as the middleman between the U.S. Air Force and the UFO phenomenon. Startling details regarding police department involvement in UFO sightings surfaced during a routine investigation into an alleged "UFO crash retrieval" from Ohio. But the findings were surprisingly unrelated to the initial event being investigated. Inquiries were being made into a December 26, 1988 UFO incident, happening in an area near Liberty, Ohio, north of Dayton (not far from Urbana). According to the legend, the Assistant Chief of Police observed a gigantic, lime-green ball of light change color as it emerged from the clouds overhead to slam into the ground. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base was notified of the incident by the dispatch office, and allegedly sent out a clandestine recovery team to retrieve the object.



In researching the validity of the UFO account, Kenny Young decided to place a phone call to directory assistance to acquire the telephone number of the Liberty Police Department to obtain some important facts about a UFO sighting. Unbeknownst to both parties, the directory assistance operator had bungled the task and furnished this author with the WRONG telephone number, instead, providing him with the number of the Liberty Township Police Department, (easily done as you can see) located north of Youngstown, Ohio. A long distance phone contact was then placed to the wrong Liberty, Ohio. "Hello, Liberty Township Police Department," came the kindly greeting after the phone call was placed. "I'm trying to get some information about the UFO report from a few years back that was reported to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base," advised this caller. "Yes sir, I believe that was two years ago ... "

To the shock of the startled caller, certain details gradually emerged which took nearly two weeks before it was fully understood that a telephone mix-up had taken place, and that the accounts in question involved two completely separate occurrences. A two-year investigation followed, which revealed the details of an incredible event in Trumbull County, Ohio, happening in December of 1994. Many police departments including the Liberty Township Department, Howland, Hubbard and Girard City Police Departments, as well as the Trumbull County Sheriffs Department, engaged in an intense, late-night vehicular pursuit of a "red, saucer shaped object" for a nine hour duration. The object was described by multiple police officials as an enormous, brightly luminescent object that rotated, as if on an axis. The object allegedly made no sound, and hovered directly above housetops in a residential neighborhood at a disturbingly low elevation.

Upon receiving phone calls to the Trumbull County Dispatch Office by area residents, one of whom described the UFO as a flaming object resembling the 'back end of a jet fighter, Liberty Township police officer Tobe Melero was alerted to the situation. "I was drinking some coffee when we started getting calls about a UFO, and we laughed about it," recalled Melero. "But then we started getting more phone calls, so I had to go check it out."

While en route to the disturbance, the officer told of how that he strangely encountered an elderly man wandering dazed and confused on the dark and empty roadway. "I wish now that I would have got his ID, or found out who he was," Melero said. "The poor man was evidently lost, and he kept saying, 'It was right above my house.'" Shortly afterward, the Liberty Township police officer approached the object in an area near Churchill/Hubbard Road, at which time he contends that the electrical instrumentation in his patrol cruiser experienced a complete power failure. "It made no sound whatever," Melero said, "and I couldn't look directly at it because it was so bright. I had to look around it." The dispatcher for the Trumbull County Sheriff's department, Ms. Royanne Rudolph, confirmed numerous calls had been received regarding the object, which seemed to maintain a definite interest over two adjacent residential neighborhoods. Families and residents had taken to the streets in droves to view the phenomenon, which another police officer of the Hubbard City Police Department advised, was pursued for a six-hour duration.

The Trumbull County 911 Dispatch Center contacted numerous other agencies, requesting assistance and aircraft identification. To the disbelief and dismay of the Trumbull County police officials, no aircraft dispatch or technical assistance or support was advanced from any of the agencies contacted, which also included the local FAA at Youngstown Airport, the Youngstown-Warren Regional Air Force Base (Youngstown, Ohio), and a nearby NASA facility (Cleveland, Ohio). According to Melero, NASA had offered the dispatch office the notion that the planet Mercury was visible for the duration of the occurrence. A county-wide pursuit of the UFO was enacted by numerous police officers, many of whom approached the hovering object from differing vantage points. By radio correspondence, they were able to triangulate its position. It first appeared in an area above Samson Drive and then drifted near Henheid Road before finally ascending to a high elevation, appearing as a star in the sky.



At the same time numerous police officials were converging on the UFO, which was described as a 'structured' object with a parachute-like appendage situated on the top of it, the FAA tower operator, mere miles from the scene of the UFO incident, claimed not to have seen the UFO, even with binoculars and at a 70-foot elevation. While fielding two separate phone calls from the Liberty Township police dispatcher, the FAA tower operator also claimed to have no radar track of the UFO.

The FAA tower is part of the same facility where the Youngstown Airbase is headquartered. During the pursuit of the UFO, a police officer traveled to the airbase and confronted a security guard at the facility. According to information conveyed on audio tape from the incident, the security guard at the airbase also could not identify the UFO. Strangely, while numerous police officers work to identify and pursue the intruder, more UFO's are suddenly observed in various areas of Trumbull County. "We have two now, I think you'll know what I mean," stated one officer into his radio. As more objects are suddenly observed, the police officer at the airbase reports: "We have a bright light over the airbase."

The region in question is adjacent to a Defense Logistics Agency and National Defense Stockpile at 1740 Niles-Warren River Road, one of the biggest radar/air defense installations in the United States. The Youngstown Municipal Radar Air Defense Agency is also within the locality. "Most people don't realize," advised a Hubbard police officer with great conviction, "that this air base out here is one of the best kept secrets in the whole damn country. Don't kid yourself. You wouldn't believe the hardware." Repeated efforts to acquire the specific date of the incident were unsuccessful until two years after initial acquisition of the information, as no written report of the incident had been produced by the Trumbull County Sheriff's Office.

"They are stonewalling you, because they don't want you requesting the audio copies of those dispatch tapes," stated one officer in 1996 who was advised that this writer sought the audio recordings made from the 911 Dispatch Center. "On those tapes, it'll tell you who all was involved in this, which implicates just about everyone."

The officer even attempted to locate the date himself, and expressed that his cohorts at the Trumbull County Dispatch Office did not respond favorably when he began making inquiries.

"Let me get right to the point, all indication leads me to believe that the 911 Center is stonewalling you!" the officer charged in a letter he personally sent to this writer. "I made an attempt to get some more information and ran into a very polite: 'I can't remember. I don't recall!'"

"I've been around long enough to know when someone is pissing down my neck and telling me it's raining out!" stated the angry officer. Another police officer, interviewed privately, stated "I don't want my involvement with this known."

In an official letter from Robert J. Caffro, operations manager of Trumbull County 911, he declared that: "the events under investigation are in no way being discarded or restricted by this 911 center. As discussed during prior conversations, we would need a date and approximate time of the occurrence so that an audio copy could be produced."

It was once thought that the time-frame of the Trumbull County incident was somewhere in late August or early September, as per comments from an officer who was interviewed. The officer, who was not a witness to the event happening on December 14th, equated the UFO sighting with the fatal crash of a jetliner near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where a UFO sighting was reported in the vicinity of the calamity one day before the disaster. A major break in the investigation came in May of 1998 when this writer was contacted by a telecommunicator of the Trumbull County 9-1-1 dispatch center, who reviewed a report on the Trumbull County incident which was available on the internet. Acting strictly as a private citizen, the telecommunicator conducted his own unofficial investigation, being compelled by the information which was presented in the report. He acquired a date of the event as December 14, 1994.

At one point on the tape, a UFO is reported by a Howland Township police officer who is observing the object with a security guard at the airbase. A second UFO appears over the airbase, and later, one police officer even speculates that military jets in the air were scrambled from the base. Inquiries placed by this writer with control tower radar operators at the Youngstown FAA revealed that there are no current employees now on duty that would have been employed at the air tower during this time frame. "All of those people were all fired. There is only a core of two persons in upper level management here that are hold-overs from then," advised the control tower telephone tattler. "All present employees were hired at roughly the same time after the date in question."

"Isn't that a little unusual?" asked the caller. "No, I don't think so," came the response. The spokesperson declared that nobody presently on-duty at the FAA control tower has any knowledge of the event. After retrieval of the dispatch tapes from the Trumbull County incident in May of 1998, a new inquiry was placed with the Youngstown-Warren Regional Airport FAA Air Traffic Control Tower regarding the UFO incident on December 14, 1994. The inquiry was placed in writing through the Freedom of Information Act to the control tower in Youngstown, Ohio, which was subsequently deferred to the Great Lakes Regional Air Traffic Division. In May of 1996, a telephone call placed by this writer to the Youngstown Air Force Base regarding the UFO pursuit was directed to the public information officer, who laughed bitterly upon being advised the nature of the call. "I can assure you," he bellowed with a distrustful spirit while going on to say that he would have been "awoken" if anything like this had been true.

"Nothing like that has EVER happened here. I don't know who your sources for this information is... and I'm not looking to know... but REST ASSURED, your info is COMPLETELY BOGUS. You have been blasted with WRONG INFORMATION." This writer had the extreme desire to correct the base officer by invoking the details of the multiple witness event and the phone calls placed to his air base requesting assistance, but elected to allow the gentleman to continue on his incorrect path of sincere ignorance or deliberate concealment. The account of the UFO disturbance over Trumbull County has been strangely blacked-out after the drama, as none of the departments involved notified the news media of the event. There has been no press reportage of the occurrence. After review of the 9-1-1 tapes, it is now known that a news reporter with Channel 33 in Youngstown, Ohio, was completely aware of this incident, and even received a phone call from a distressed resident near Samson Road. The citizenry was never apprised. After a recent traffic accident generated local headlines, one police official being interviewed by an area reporter complained that the news media should have been just as interested in the big UFO event as much as they were about the traffic accident. "The reporter just laughed," observed the officer.

The Trumbull County disturbance remains a volatile mystery. Flaming the drama is the reshuffling of the staff at the FAA tower and the heated denials by the Youngstown Air base public relations officer, who stated that "the event never happened to begin with." Also of great interest is the comment made by the FAA tower operator who said that 'nothing could be visually observed' while a security guard outside the very facility in question, accompanied by a Howland Township police officer, watched the UFO. At one point, a second object appeared 'over the airbase.' The disruption of the electronic instrumentation of the Liberty Township patrol cruiser offers viable evidence that should demand this case attain more widespread attention and scrutiny, at which time, the skeptical communities and debunking celebrities would have a quality UFO case to thoroughly investigate; a case complete with numerous witnesses, including police officials, reporting a massive, rotating saucer-shaped red light which resulted in laer Air Force denials and the appearance of a conspiracy.

It might never have been discovered except for a misplaced phone call. More than two years ago, Cincinnati-based UFO investigator Kenny Young called directory assistance for the number of the Liberty Police Department. He thought he was calling a small town in western Ohio, not far from Urbana. Instead, he found himself talking to the Liberty Township PD in northeastern Ohio, just north of Youngstown. Not realizing the error, he asked about a UFO case the department might have dealt with some time back. "Yes sir, I believe that was two years ago," said the friendly dispatcher, who then began recollecting events that occurred in late 1994. At first, Young didn't realize that this was a completely new case; but soon that became clear. It was new -- and it was very, very big.

What he now calls the Trumbull County Disturbance involved police officers from ten or more local departments around the Youngstown-Warren area of northeastern Ohio, chasing at least two UFOs during a period of more than six hours in the early morning of December 14, 1994. After more than two years of investigation, Young has acquired an audio recording from the Liberty Township 911 Central Dispatch Office that graphically details the amazing radio chatter accompanying the officers' sighting and pursuit of the UFOs. Thanks to Young's generosity, CNI News has also acquired a copy of this remarkable tape.

Following his accidental discovery of the incident in 1996, Young began locating and interviewing eyewitness participants. One police officer, Tobe Melero, said he saw the UFO up close. It appeared as a huge red light, turning the immediate area almost as bright as day (the time was around midnight); and it disrupted the electrical system of his car. Melero was shocked. Following his encounter, he told the 911 dispatcher that he had to go off air for a few minutes to "collect his thoughts." Young knew there was more to the case, but his investigation stalled because he was unable to pinpoint the exact date of the incident. He was told he was being stonewalled.

"They are stonewalling you, because they don't want you requesting the audio copies of those dispatch tapes," one officer told him in 1996. "On those tapes, it'll tell you who all was involved in this, which implicates just about everyone." It was another lucky break that finally got Young the 911 tape. Someone inside the dispatch office made a private inquiry, first finding out the exact date, then seeking the tapes. That person learned that the original tapes for December 14, 1994, the night of the incident, were missing.

But he managed to find a backup copy, from which he made a copy for Young. As Young later discovered, officer Tobe Melero was only one of many police officers who saw and pursued two or more UFOs that night. Young writes: "Many police departments, including the Liberty Township Department, Howland, Hubbard and Girard City Police Departments, as well as the Trumbull County Sheriffs Department, engaged in an intense, late-night vehicular pursuit of a 'red, saucer shaped object'... described by multiple police officials as an enormous, brightly luminescent object that rotated, as if on an axis. The object allegedly made no sound, and hovered directly above housetops in a residential neighborhood at a disturbingly low elevation."

Later in the chase it became apparent that at least two objects were being observed by officers in different locales. On the 911 audiotape, one officer (Unit 2223) reports, "I've got a visual on both of them, I'm sure you know what I'm talking about... OK, I've got them both. I've got Howland saying it looks like it's in the area of Warren Road, Liberty says it's down near Hubbard." One of the UFOs was also witnessed by an Air Force base security guard in the company of a police officer. The Youngstown Air Force Base is adjacent to Youngstown-Warren Regional Municipal Airport, both in the vicinity of Vienna, east of Warren -- directly in the center of that night's UFO activity. However, personnel in the FAA Air Traffic Control Tower at the airport repeatedly told the 911 police dispatcher that they could not see anything visually or on radar.

Young was told by a "tattler" inside the local FAA office that all the tower personnel involved that night were "fired" or "reassigned" following the incident. Understandably, most of the numerous police officers were not eager to come forward at first. But strangely, a reporter for WYTV Youngstown channel 33 news, who got wind of the story as it was breaking, chose to report nothing about it at all. To this day, despite massive eyewitness testimony and the sensational 911 audiotape, no mainstream news media have reported on this case. The incident began in the late evening of December 13 when several citizens in the Liberty Township area called 911 to report a low flying UFO. At first, the 911 dispatcher took the reports very lightly, making typical disdainful UFO jokes with patrol officers over the radio. After four different people called 911 reporting UFOs, the dispatcher became slightly more serious.

Officers agreed to check out reports of several sightings along Samson Drive. At about 12:30 am, reporter Stacey Adger of WYTV news called the 911 dispatcher, saying a woman had called the TV station to report a UFO. From this moment on, Adger was aware of a developing story - but she never reported it.



More calls were received from local citizens; soon the total was at least eight. Then, Officer Tobe Melero, unit 998, radioed that he saw the object, a bright red glow "bright as daylight on the ground." Soon after, Unit 429 radioed that he had the object in his binoculars. The time was approximately 1 am. Before the night ended, patrol officers from ten or more surrounding jurisdictions participated in a complex cat and mouse pursuit. Often, the UFOs -- two at least -- were said to be no more than 50 feet off the ground. Several officers described structure. Colors on the objects ranged from brilliant red to white to lavender, blue and green. Often the objects hovered, but sometimes they moved much faster than the police cars could pursue. The following portion of transcript from the 911 tape, prepared by Kenny Young, demonstrates the intensity of events that night :-

Voice: I see it now, too.

Voice: It looks like it's flickering more now and it's east of me now. I'm heading east on Old 82...

Voice: I've got a pretty good view from here.

Voice: I'm dead east on it, it's slightly north of us.

Voice: It's extremely bright, really bright.

Voice: It's all the way into Liberty now, into Hubbard now...

Unit #998: Is Howland reporting sightings?

[Dispatch]: That is affirmative.

UNIT #2223: I've got a visual on both of them, I'm sure you know what I'm talking about.

CONTROL: 10-4. We have multiple departments right now that have sightings on it.

UNIT #2223: OK, I've got them both. I've got Howland saying it looks like it's in the area of Warren Road; Liberty says it's down near Hubbard.

CONTROL: If you see anything close and can identify it, let us know.

UNIT #2223: Affirmative.

Voice: I'm past 84-Lumber, still eastbound. It's southeast of my location.

Voice: It doesn't seem like it moved at all from where I'm at.

Voice: OK, are you by yourself, or is there someone documenting the observation also?

Voice: I'm at the airbase, I've got the security guard out here. He doesn't know what to make of it either. We can see it from right here.

Voice: Did you ask Liberty Dispatch the outcome of the FAA inquiry?

UNIT #433: Last check, radar at the airport was advising nothing on their screens. They wouldn't tell us anyway if it's anything to do with the military. We've had another 'Hangar 7' happen in Trumbull County. [end of transcript excerpt]

As dawn approached, the low-flying objects ascended to higher altitude, where they took on the appearance of stars. However, several officers continued to insist that what they saw was not stars or planets. This is clearly supported by the radio chatter on the 911 tape, where it is apparent that officers in separate locations are triangulating on objects that are close to the ground.

This could not happen if the officers were seeing celestial objects. Also near dawn, jets reportedly flew through the area, though it is not clear whether they were responding to the UFO sightings. As is often the case, this UFO incident took place within close proximity to a secretive military installation. According to Young, "the region in question is adjacent to a Defense Logistics Agency and National Defense Stockpile, one of the biggest radar/air defense installations in the United States. The Youngstown Municipal Radar Air Defense Agency is also within the locality."

Some police officers apparently suspected that secret military activity might account for the events. "Most people don't realize that this air base out here is one of the best kept secrets in the whole damn country," a Hubbard police officer told Young.

"Don't kid yourself. You wouldn't believe the hardware," he insisted. While many questions remain unanswered, what is clear is that a UFO incident of potentially enormous significance, documented on police audiotape and witnessed by dozens of personnel from ten or more police departments, the FAA, the Air Force and at least one major television station, would have gone entirely unreported but for a lucky discovery by an independent UFO investigator, Kenny Young. CNI News commends and thanks Young for his continuing pursuit of this case; and we ask: WHY are cases like this covered up? WHO is afraid? WHAT are they hiding?

CNI News believes the foregoing information demonstrates clear, official intent to keep this case out of public view. Furthermore, it seems likely that there are many other cases of this kind that are not and perhaps never will be discovered, unless deception and denial concerning UFOs is brought to an end.

Unknown Unit: I've got a visual on it. I'm east on Old 82 with a visual on it by the 'S' curve. I can see a large red, blue and green light. I am going east on Liberty. This thing's going so fast, there's no way I can keep up with it. When I pulled in Liberty I could see it in the distance, but I got closer and it started moving.

Voice: Which Liberty?

Unknown Unit: Liberty off of Belmont. I don't see it now. I'm on Logan now.

Voice: OK, 429, its south of Old 82, I'm moving east on it.

Unit #429: I'm still stationary at the airbase. Its pulsating.

Voice: Affirmative, I'm looking at it through binoculars. It's got something protruding out the top of it.

Voice: I'm on Belmont now.

Voice: It's over tracks now...

Voice: It's hovering now.

Some Notes:

1. Air Force Colonel Mack McLaurin stated in USA TODAY, July 8, 1996: "Our policy is that if someone sights an unknown aircraft, their first action should be to call the police."

Such responses rendered from an agency whose responsibility it is to protect and defend the airspace of the country seems somewhat inept, yet is an official policy directive simply due to the fact that the agency no longer officially investigates the UFO situation after the closure of PROJECT BLUE BOOK, and any such responsive action would be perceived as contrary to their supposed policy.

2. January, 1997 telephone interview with Sgt. Atkeson of the Ohio State Patrol, who stated that the only written instructions available which are given to the officer using the code word is that they are to 'acquire a flight path, make and registration number of the aircraft in question.' However, what is not explained is that when such information is obtained, the object is no longer UNIDENTIFIED, and therefore not categorized as a SIGNAL-50 report.

3. "SIGNAL 50" code term utilized by O.S.P., source: Police Call Plus, Volume 3, Publisher, Gene Hughes.

4. Report On Incident At LeCI, published February 1996 by Kenny Young, TASK; also reported in April 9, 1993 Cincinnati Post, Cincinnati Enquirer, and April 17 Western Star newspapers. O.S.P. reports and documentation obtained by Dale Farmer, TASK

5. Telephone interview with Captain H. Lake, Shift Commander at WCI, January 26, 1993

6. Telephone interview with Paul E. Cassidy, Wright-Patt Acting FOIA Manager, November 1995. Cassidy stated during this interview that all UFO-related FOIA requests are simply 'thrown out.'

7. Report from WCCC Director of Communications, Frank Young, February 6, 1996, and also separate telephone discussion with O.S.P. dispatcher on December 28, 1995

8. Mysteries Of The Unknown: The UFO Phenomenon, Time-Life Books, 1987

9. UFO Crash Retrievals: The Inner Sanctum, Leonard Stringfield, 1992

10. Telephone interview with Liberty TWP dispatcher, April 1996

11. It was learned that the "wrong" Liberty had been contacted after clarification from Liberty TWP Police Chief Gerald Wardrop during a May 1996 telephone interview.

12. Telephone with Liberty TWP Police Officer Tobe Melero, May 1996

13. Fax transmission memo from Robert J. Caffro, Operations Manager of Trumbull County 911, dated June 25, 1996

14. Telephone call placed to Youngstown FAA Tower, June 1996

Case Details !

This incident is a remarkable UFO situation happening in 1994 near Youngstown, Ohio. The case involved the pursuit of a low-flying object by numerous police officials from a wide area. One officer approached the object at close range, saying it 'lit up the ground as if daylight,' and also declared that the electronic/radio instrumentation of his patrol cruiser was "shut down" by the object.

Why hasn't this been publicised?

That question is partly what makes this case somewhat interesting. The details of this incident had been known by and available to news media personnel in the region, but the incredible story was never publicized, and the participants involved did not seek to discuss the incident in any public capacity. The case was discovered by accident as a misplaced phone call by a UFO researcher was directed to the wrong police agency concerning a separate UFO sighting in a small town in southern Ohio.

When did this happen?

The incident actually began before 12:01 a.m. in the early morning hours of Wednesday, December 14, 1994. Before midnight, the Trumbull County 9-1-1 center had already logged several UFO reports from residents near the Sampson Road vicinity. Curiously, UFOs were reported in the area the previous evening, as well as two weeks prior.

Where, exactly, did this occur?

In an area within Liberty Township, about 4-miles north of Youngstown, surrounded by Weathersfield Township to the west, Vienna Township to the north and Hubbard Township to the east. The happening occurred near and above the Youngstown Air Reserve Station, where public relations officers adamantly deny the event ever transpired, despite the acquisition of 9-1-1 police dispatch tapes to the contrary.

How were the 9-1-1 tapes acquired?

Several telecommunicators at the Trumbull County 9-1-1 center read the 1996 report entitled: "The Trumbull County Disturbance: The Wrong Liberty," which appeared on the internet. Intrigued by this account, they researched the case and acquired a date of the event. Acting strictly as private citizens and not on behalf of the department, they retrieved the data from the audio tapes stored at the center. The original tapes were said to have been 'missing,' but a backup set was located in another storage area.

Which police departments are involved?

There are 25 police departments in the Trumbull County area, all of which are serviced by the same 9-1-1 Telecommunications Center. There are two references to this. One quote: *"Everyone in the county has a visual on it that I can hear."* Another controller states: *"We have multiple departments right now that has sightings on it."* This is a listing of the police departments in Trumbull County :-

BAZETTA TWP. PD - 2667 McCleary Jacoby Road: Cortland, OH 44410
HUBBARD CITY PD - 33 W. Liberty Street: Hubbard, OH 44425
ORANGEVILLE VILL. PD - High Street: Orangeville, Oh 44453
BRACEVILLE TWP. PD - 586 Braceville Robinson: Newton Falls, OH 44444
HUBBARD TWP. PD - 2600 Mill Street: Hubbard, OH 44425
TRUMBULL CTY SHERIFF - 605 Panther Drive: Warren, OH 44483
BROOKFIELD TWP. PD - 6844 Strimbu Drive: Brookfield, OH 44403
JOHNSTON TWP. PD - 4424 SR 88 NE: Farmdale, OH 44417
VIENNA TWP. PD - PO Box 473: Vienna, OH 44473
CHAMPION TWP. PD - 149 Center E.: Warren, OH 44481
KINSMAN TWP. PD - 9270 SE 5: Kinsman, OH 44428
W. FARMINGTON VILL. - PO Box 215 - 251 Fourth Street: W. Farmington, OH 44491
CORTLAND CITY PD - 400 N. High: Cortland, OH 44410
LIBERTY TWP. PD - 1315 Churchill Hubbard RD: Youngstown, OH 44505
WARREN CITY PD - 141 South Street SE: Warren, OH 44483
FOWLER TWP. PD - PO Box 12: Fowler, OH 44418
LORDSTOWN VILL. PD - 1583 Salt Springs Rd.: Lordstown, OH 44481
WARREN TWP. PD - 3765 W. Market Street: Leavittsburg, OH 44430
GIRARD CITY PD - 100 W. Main Street: Chard, OH 44420
MCDONALD VILLAGE - 451 Ohio Avenue: McDonald, OH 44437
WEATHERSFIELD TWP.- 1451 Prospect Street: MineralRidge, OH 44440
HARTFORD TWP. PD - PO Box 116: Hartford, OH 44424
NEWTON FALLS PD - 19 North Canal Street: Newton Falls, OH 44444
HOWLAND TWP. PD - 169 Niles Cortland RD NE: Warren, OH 44484
NILES CITY PD - 15 East State Street: Niles, OH 44446

Of the 25 police departments, **(above)** the following are likely candidates for involvement as per reference on the audio tape plus additional inquiries made during the 1996 phase of the investigation, where other departments were mentioned :-

Niles City PD. Howland Twp. PD. Girard City PD. Warren Twp. PD. Liberty Twp. PD. Cortland City PD. Brookfield Twp. PD. Trumbull County Sheriff. Hubbard Twp. PD. Hubbard City PD.

Note that this listing excludes one major department: The Trumbull County Highway Patrol, which is totally separate and not dispatched by the 9-1-1 center. This agency does not retain 9-1-1 tapes from December of 1994.

There is one facility 'SHARED' by both the Youngstown / Warren Regioal Airport and the Youngstown Air Force Reserve Station. From various interviews, it has been determined that the UFO seen by the police officers and base-security personnel would/should have been observed by the FAA controller in the radar tower, which was situated at a nearly 60-foot elevation. On the 9-1-1 tapes, the controller informs that he cannot visually observe the object, and adds that his radar screens indicates no traffic in the area. The Ohio Atlas & Gazetteer by Delorme illustrates 4- runway/ taxiways. The facility is situated near the Crown Hill cemetary (also referenced in tape). The airport is north of Warren Sharon Road, east of Ridge Road, west of Route 193 and south of Kings Graves Road. The airport is about five miles east of Warren. The region in question is adjacent to a Defense Logistics Agency and National Defense Stockpile, one of the biggest radar/air defense installations in the United States. The Youngstown Muncial Radar Air Defense Agency is also within the locality. "Most people don't realize that this air base out here is one of the best kept secrets in the whole damnable country," a Hubbard police officer stated in 1996. "Don't kid yourself. You wouldn't believe the hardware," he insisted.



Various descriptions are given to recount the physical appearance of the object, ranging from a bright light to a structured object with a parachute-like attachment, to an object with an element protruding from the top of it. The primary object was first said to have been 'blue-colored' and even described as the "back-end of a fighter plane." Other callers described a bluish-green object with flames. Police officers described a brilliant red light on a 'huge' object, others reported a bright-white light. Still others described a glowing red, saucer-shaped object which rotated, as if on an axis.

No sound was heard in conjunction with any of the sightings. As the event progressed, at least two objects were seen and pursued. Three or more objects were also reported at a higher altitude before military jets were thought to have arrived, in pursuit of the UFOs. There is no indication (on the 9-1-1 tape) that the primary object was seen to produce or generate the other objects (a commonly reported characteristic of many UFO reports), and such a happening would have probably been referenced by the policemen without reservation due to the mass-witness climate. If other objects were truly present and visibly noticed in divergent locations, their approach method is not known (zoom, swing, fade in, etc). From the tape, we know that the initial object approached from a high elevation and hovered at an estimated 50-foot elevation sometime before midnight above a residential neighborhood for a lengthy duration before executing a departure path to the north, finally rising to a high elevation and appearing as a sar in the sky.

To balance this account, one must also note the possibility that the excited and alert officers could have been observing and misidentifying stars or airplanes while on the lookout for a UFO reported across the county by several of their fellow officers. This is even referenced on the tape as speculation by other policemen who apparently did not see the main object. However, it should be stressed that an officer on the tape did qualify a distinct difference between stars and routine air traffic against the unknown objects, which he counted to be as many as six. He made the analysis while speaking to the controller as he was visibly observing the objects. Another officer flatly discounted the 'star or planet' scenario, stating that the object was 'huge' and lit up the ground as if it were daylight.

Is there any record of whether jets were scrambled that night? If they were (as the police officer indicated, "four planes up there") would that be very unusual at, say, 2 a.m.?

We don't know that 2 A.M. was the approximate time of this report, we are given no time-stamp or reference point from which to accurately log the event. The officers who dubbed the tape from the master reel gleaned the data from a time period after midnight until 6:00 a.m. The segment referencing the 'military jets' is one of the final sequences, so it could have been later in the morning, perhaps 4 or as late as 5. Since this data is retained within a 6-hour time, the 'real-time' impressions upon listening to the available recording will not be reflected, as its duration has been compacted onto a 90-minute tape. The officer who is observing the jets is doing so from a time-frame where the incident is nearly over.

One may suspect the presence of jets at an early hour would be unusual, but note that the officer involved certainly thought that the airbase was scrambling jets in pursuit. The Public Relations Officer at the Youngstown Air Force Reserve Station, who denies the reality of the event, informs that no jet aircraft as described are housed at the facility, where C-130 Cargo planes are stationed.

If jets were, indeed scrambled to the scene, they may have originated from the Springfield, Ohio Air National Guard Base or Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. It is very reasonable to suspect that if jets were, in fact, scrambled... they could have originated from another state altogether.

It is important to note that when the Liberty Twp. dispatcher contacted the FAA tower operator (around the 1 A.M. time-frame), the radar controller said there was nothing on radar or in the air at the time within a 60-mile radius of Youngstown. He added that a plane had departed about 30-minutes earlier and climbed straight up, but nothing was 'presently' around. This indicates the arrival of the alleged jets were probably within a fair amount of time after the analysis by the radar operator. Another factor in this may also be the pattern of scheduled military or commercial flights in/from Youngstown during the early morning hours. Perhaps as the morning progressed, more air traffic increased (such as Federal Express, etc). However, in an interview with base personnel and a local officer from the area, he informed that there are no routine flights in or out of the facility.

What about the air traffic controller. Had he/they been "fired" or "reassigned?"

Unknown. A news reporter with a Youngstown television station was aware of rumors that the controllers who had been employed at the tower in the time-frame surrounding this incident had been reassigned across the country.

Despite FOIA requests asking for such information, nothing has been advanced to shed light on this aspect of the story. During a 1996 interview with a tower supervisor, it was stated that all of the controllers were FIRED at roughly the same time. These comments, from a female operative, were within the context of the UFO inquiry and in direct response to questions regarding their whereabouts. There was, however, no indication of wrongdoing (as the term implies) given that would justify their dismissal. (Such an admission would probably not have been furnished anyway).

Without any direct information equating this collective dismissal/firing with the UFO incident, it may important to reference. The needfulness of this reference can be drawn from the Michigan 9-1-1 situation - also from '94, where it was reported that the radar operator involved in that case was somewhat elusive when researchers sought to contact him, as he, too, had been reassigned elsewhere.

A similar case of 'reassignment' is the Eastlake County, Ohio case from the late '80s in which U.S. Coast Guard employees witnessed a spectacular UFO and afterward could not be located by reporters due to their relocation and new duties. This establishes certain precedent from which soft reference (and concern) can be justified.

At this point and from the information afforded on the tapes, we only know of one FAA tower operator who responded to the calls from the 9-1-1 center. It is not known if this one person was numbered among those who were 'fired.'

What attempts have been made to explain this incident?

Numerous inquiries have been made with officials of the Youngstown Air Reserve Station, as well as police departments, and one local hospital in the region, to determine if this could be a case of mistaken identity caused by other air traffic. Various avenues of approach considered that an emergency medical helicopter or a low flying 'Sky-Crane' helicopter could have generated the reports. After detailed investigation, however, such speculation has been satisfactorily discounted.

What Next?

Numerous FOIA requests and responses are still pending, and additional channels of inquiry are also being sought. There are "certain rumblings" indicating that the Trumbull County Disturbance may be referenced in a national news program, which is currently in production. Continued investigations into this affair may still yield more clues, and further technical means are being explored so that the 9-1-1 tapes can be made available to the internet patron.

Trumbull County Investigation: Northside Hospital.

A call was placed to the Northside Medical Center to determine if Air Care helicopter flights were active in the area on the night of December 14, 1994. The call was transferred to SECURITY, where Mr. Jones was kind enough to conduct a search of the log book for the information. Jones said that the log book records helicopter flights to or from the helipad at the Northside Hospital. "Every flight coming in or leaving this hospital is documented, they are logged in and logged out," Jones said. "We have to open the pad and prepare the fire extinguishers, all that is recorded." Jones conducted a search through the log book for all flights to or from the hospital in December of 1994. He was informed that the date of December 14 was the day in question.

"There were no helicopter flights to our helipad on that date," Jones said. "The only listing for helicopter flights to the Northside Hospital was on December 10 and December 23." The hospital itself does not have a helicopter of its own, nor do any other hospitals in the area. Helicopter's arriving at the Northside helipad are usually the 'Metro Lifeflight' unit or the 'STAT' helicopter out of Pittsburgh.

It was indicated that an unusual sighting of an aerial object near Sampson Drive was being investigated, and if a helicopter were to recover an accident victim from this area and transport the person to another hospital instead of Northside. "No, that wouldn't happen," said the security officer at the hospital. "If something happend on Sampson drive, they would have been taken to one of the two local hospitals via ambulance. If necessary, they would then be flown from there [the hospital] elsewhere, to Cleveland or wherever." The 'Northside Helicopter' theory is squashed, but just because flights originating to or from the hospital have been ruled out doesn't eliminate a helicopter scenario altogether. The UFO situation in Trumbull County on December 14 may still be explainable as a misidentified helicopter... but if so, such a helicopter would have originated from someplace other than Northside. Even still, the helicopter scenario strongly contradicts the event as we understand it from close review of witness testimony, conflicting in both visual as well as audible characteristics described by witnesses to the incident.

SKY-CRANE helicopter scenario and Captain Keytack follow-up.

Contact was again made with CAPTAIN KEYTACK this morning at 8:55 a.m. (330-609-1236). He said that he has completed his FOIA reply and sent it to Senior Master Sergeant David Symmes for his stamp of approval, his phone number is 330-609-1087.

Symmes is the base FOIA officer. He indicated the FOIA request was what they call a 'Shotgun request' in which the request specified 'any and everything' they had. He said the results of the FOIA will be quite routine. Captain Keytack was asked about the possibilities of the UFO seen on December 14, 1994 being a misidentified helicopter.

"Not from this base," he said. Keytack informed that no helicopters are stationed at the airbase, which is an Air Force Reserve facility. Since 1953, the base has never had helicopters stationed here, although there have been several 'visits' by helicopters periodically through the years. Keytack was asked about the helicopter scenario since it has been postulated that two SKY CRANE helicopters were seen flying in or near the Vienna/Youngstown Airbase several days prior to the strange December 14, 1994 incident. This hypothesis was advanced by an unknown officer with the Liberty Township police department, who reportedly observed the helicopters and mused that the UFO sightings could have been due to one of these helicopters.

There are some very sober reasons to doubt a helicopter involvement with the Trumbull County affair. From what is known, there is nothing that would lead one to suspect that a helicopter would engender the visual reports descriptively recounted by citizenry near the Sampson Road vicinity, where the callers were reporting an 'object with flames.' One caller commented: "It looked like the back end of a fighter-jet." Later, certain officers dispatched to the scene, witnessing and even pursuing the object, reported 'no sound' in conjunction with the sighting. The Pratt & Whitney JFTD 12A-5A engines used in a Sikorsky S-64 Sky Crane helicopter are not 'hush' equipped engines nor designed for silent performance. Various descriptive statements are on file, ranging from a 'red, rotating saucer' to a structured object with a parachute-like appendage.

One police officer reported the visual perception of a 'red light' which was 'huge' and illuminated the ground, as if it were daylight. Such a powerful 'red' light is not a routine headlighting feature of a Sky-Crane or other helicopters. Even considering the possibilities of witness misperception, the descriptive characteristics of a saucer-shaped object, the "rotating" ballistic or flight performance, its silent operation, flames and brilliant red light, when collectively gathered, work strongly to eliminate a 'misidentified helicopter' scenario. Additionally, it would be unclear what purpose a Sky Crane helicopter would have flying above a residential neighborhood during the unusual midnight hour, and as reported, hovering for an extended duration. Such night-time operations above a residential neighborhood for these helicopters are generally not routine, further lessening the chances of a 'misidentified helicopter' scenario.

Captain Keytack, Public Relations Officer of the Vienna / Younstown Air Base, said on July 22, 1998 that there were no construction projects ongoing in December or 1994 that would warrant a SKY CRANE helicopter at the airbase, and he also said, "From a safety point of view... no helicopters would fly in the evening." Furthermore, the FAA tower operator who was contacted by the 9-1-1 dispatch officer during the UFO sighting, advised that there was no radar track of any aircraft in the specified vicinities, and additionally stated that the Youngstown FAA screens painted no aircraft within a 60-mile radius of Youngstown. Sky Crane helicopters are not routinely outfitted with Stealth radar-evading technology. If such a helicopter were operational during this time frame, there is every indication it would have surfaced on radar at some point, even if flying at an abnormally low elevation (as most radar systems can even detect automobile and truck/semi traffic on highways).

Previous inquiries with Northside Hospital concerning Life Flight emergency helicopters have also discounted a similar helicopter explanation involving medical flights. On the next page there are some statistics for one model of a Skycrane helicopter.

SKYCRANE HELICOPTER:

Could one have been mistaken for a UFO on December 14, 1994 in Trumbull County, Ohio?

Sikorsky S-64 Skycrane: Aircraft Specifications

Weight

Maximum Gross Weight 42,000 LBS
Empty Weight 25,500 LBS
Useful Load 16,500 LBS
Useful Load with Full Fuel 11,000 LBS
Maximum External Load 20,000 LBS

Capacities

CREW ONLY Standard Seating 3
High Density 5

Performance

Service Ceiling 13,000 FT
Hover Ceiling,IGE 10,600 FT
Hover Ceiling,OGE 6,900 FT
Installed Horsepower 9,000 HP
Takeoff Power 6,600 HP

Rotor Blades

Main 6
Tail 4

Speed

VNE (Maximum Air Speed) 109 KNTS
Econ Cruise (Efficiency) 91 KNTS

Range

Maximum Fuel Range 219 NM
Endurance (No Reserves) 2.5 HRS

Fuel

Capacity (Standard Tank) 880 gal : Capacity with Auxiliary 1,320 gal

ENGINE

Manufacturer Pratt & Whitney Model (2) JFTD 12A-5A



FOIA Reply :
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Aviation Administration
Great Lakes Region
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018
Freedom of Information Act Request No. 1998-008034GL

Dear Mr. Young:

The Air Traffic Division has received your letter dated May 26, 1998 requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In your letter you have requested all information available at Youngstown Air Traffic Control Tower for the date of December 14, 1994 concerning reports of an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO). Due to time retention criteria we are unable to review any records that may have existed pursuant to your request. We are unaware of any other Air Traffic facilities that are likely to possess additional responsive records. The undersigned, as well as, David B. Johnson, Acting Manager, Air Traffic Division, Great Lakes Region is responsible for this no records response. You may request administrative review of this determination by writing the Assistant Administrator for Region and Center Operations, ARC-40, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, DC 20591. Your request for reconsideration must be made in writing within 30 days from the date of receipt of this letter and must include all information and arguments relied upon. Your letter must state that it is an appeal from the above-described determination made under FOIA. The envelope containing the appeal should be marked "FOIA." There is no charge for this service. This request has been processed under Freedom of Information Act document control number 1998-009034GL.

Sincerely,
(signed)
Cecelia L. Hunziker
Regional Administrator
Great Lakes Region

Special Thanks to Mr. Kenny Young, Cincinnati, USA : A Remarkable UFO Researcher / Investigator.
The full report is available via the internet along with a 90 minute audio recording of the 9-1-1 Trumbull County Police :Emergency Dispatch



<http://www.paranormalmagazine.co.uk>

Exploring the world of the unexplained, Paranormal magazine delves into the dark world of ghosts, UFOs, strange creatures, weird phenomena, folklore and magic. Millions of people have experienced the uncanny, the mysterious, the mystical in their lives. But you do not need to believe in the paranormal to enjoy Paranormal. If you have an open mind and are curious about the world around you, this is the magazine for you. Engaging, intriguing, fascinating, sometimes startling and sometimes scary – Paranormal magazine never fails to entertain with its down to earth approach to some way-out subjects. Expect the unexpected with Paranormal magazine.

UK UFO SIGHTINGS



News...



UFO Chaser: Aliens Involved in Mysterious Calf Mutilations. Thursday, November 26, 2009.

SAN LUIS, Colo. A creepy string of calf mutilations in southern Colorado has a rancher and sheriff's officials mystified.

Four calves were found dead in a pasture just north of the New Mexico state line in recent weeks. The dead calves had their skins peeled back and organs cleared from the rib cage. One calf had its tongue removed. But rancher Manuel Sanchez has found no signs of human attackers, such as footprints or ATV tracks. And there are no signs of an animal attack by a coyote or mountain lion. Usually predators leave pools of blood or drag marks from carrying away the livestock. Two officers from the Costilla County Sheriff's Office have investigated the mutilations but say they don't know what's killing the calves.

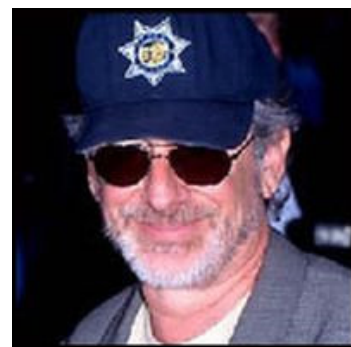


"There's nothing really to go by," said Sanchez, who's ranching for nearly 50 years. "I can't figure it out." A spokesman for the sheriff's office told The Pueblo Chieftain that investigators doubt a person butchered the calves because there is no blood at the scene. "I've butchered a cow before and I know what kind of a mess it leaves," Sgt. James Chavez said. Some in the area believe the mutilations are the work of aliens. An area UFO chaser, Chuck Zukowski of Colorado Springs, has been to the Costilla County pasture to investigate. He told the paper there have been other unexplained calf mutilations in the area, including three in March.

One of the other calves, found dead on a ranch near Trinidad, had its ears removed, Zukowski said. "We're trying as much as we can to find a pattern," said Zukowski, who runs a UFO Web site called ufonut.com. Sanchez said he has sold off his 32 remaining calves out of fear more would be mutilated. He hasn't decided how he'll manage the remaining 40 animals in his herd. "It's a big loss for a small rancher," he said.

Spielberg Confused by Decrease in UFO Sightings

Oscar-winning director STEVEN SPIELBERG is baffled that fewer UFO sightings are made now than were made twenty years ago - because the technology to record would-be aliens is so commonplace today. The 59-year-old film-maker has made a string of alien-themed movies - CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND, ET: THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL and WAR OF THE WORLDS - and is disappointed it seems he'll never get the chance to see evidence of a UFO himself. Spielberg says, "There are millions of video cameras out there and they're picking up less videos of UFOs, alleged UFOs, than we picked up in the 1970s and 1980s. There's 150 per cent more cameras, so why are we getting less from up there? "I think that we all know that we're not alone in the universe. I can't imagine that we are the only intelligent biological life form out there. I'm a little less sure in my fifties that I was in my late twenties whether we're actually ever going to find out."



Cross of Light appears in Sky over Russia : Dec 8th 2009.

A habitant of the city Sharya, Russia, witnessed the strange phenomenon. In the sky right above his house he saw a glowing cross. Vladimir Rostovcev filmed the anomaly on his camera. Early in the morning he was going to work, but he couldn't start the engine of his car. At this moment his attention was attracted by the incredible sight... A cross was hanging in the middle of the sky. Then it just dissolved. Vladimir says: "It is strange, but after the cross dissolved my car was started without problems..."



Gee Cross, Hyde, Cheshire.

A large group of us watching the fire works on November 7th 2009, at 8.25 PM, looked up and saw an orange oval object just below cloud level. It traveled across the sky like a helicopter without sound. We watched it till it disappeared, then another one did the same. Soon after this two followed together. Then about 9.30 PM, we saw another three following each other. Editor's Note: UFOs are frequently sighted near fireworks, they may have an interest in them or people have a reason to look up and see UFOs.

Kingswood, Hull, East Yorkshire.

On November 11 2009, there was loud jet activity in our area. I went out to tend to my dog at 8 PM, and observed two solid bright red lights in the southeast sky. One of the lights darted downwards, closely followed by the other one. The speed with which they moved and changed direction immediately ruled out this being any aircraft as extreme direction changes happened almost instantaneously. I observed the two lights with an ASDA delivery driver for ten minutes as two military jets passed over head on full afterburners in the direction of the red lights. Five seconds later the hovering red lights accelerated and disappeared over the horizon taking ten seconds to pass from view.

Glasgow.

On November 16, 2009, at 9:30 PM, I was walking my dog at the Oval in Prestwick, and was aware of a strange tension in the air and my hair began to stand on end, beneath the many layers I had wrapped up in because of the winter weather. My Alsatian dog, began to cower in fear of some unseen object overhead, and began to pull on its leash. I was suddenly very light headed and saw several different combinations of flashing lights above me. I woke up outside the swimming pool in Prestwick six hours later, my eyes bloodshot and with an orange liquid coming from my nose.



Blackpool.

Witness responds.....The photo was taken from the central pier, off the main promenade on November 5, 2009. I was taking photographs for stock photography web sites of Blackpool Illuminations tower at 7:45 PM. When I was checking through the photos I noticed what I thought was light contamination. This was not the case. I therefore checked for other causes that it could have been to produce this effect but all probable causes were negative. I now believe it to be a ;UFO. When I checked on other web sites, I found this was not the only sighting on that night but it is the only photograph.



Britain finally sets up its own version of Nasa.

Britain is to set up its own Nasa-like agency to take it into a new space age, it was disclosed. The new organisation, which has not been named yet but is likely to be called the British Space Agency, will represent the UK in all its dealings with international partners. The announcement, made by the Science Minister Lord Drayson, follows a 12-week consultation held with academia, industry and government departments. Britain spends about £270m a year on space, most of it via its membership of the European Space Agency (Esa). But it also has a highly successful industry which currently contributes some £6.5bn a year to the UK economy. "Our space sector hasn't missed a beat during this recession," said Lord Drayson. "This is the classic story of outstanding UK science and entrepreneurship continuing to create jobs and achieve exceptional growth."



"The new space agency is about making sure that the UK fully exploits its competitive advantage in satellites, robotics and related technologies." Whereas Germany, France and Italy have national space agencies that speak with single voices backed up by single budgets, the UK's approach has been to devolve space policy decisions to a club of "users" facilitated by the British National Space Centre (BNSC). These users are the government departments and research councils that have interests in space science or space-borne services.

"In principle, having an agency is excellent news," said Richard Peckham, the chairman of UK Space, an umbrella group representing the British industrial space sector. In July, Esa finally opened a technical centre in Britain - the only one of its major members not to have such a showcase facility. It also appointed a British national, Major Tim Peake, to its astronaut corps in May. The government has initiated a review of UK space activity to try to identify the key trends that businesses can exploit in the coming years. This is due to report in the coming weeks. Another space study was published on Thursday. The Space Exploration Review examines the options for future UK participation in the global effort to push humans out across the Solar System, especially at locations such as the Moon and Mars.



Spiral UFO puts Norway in a Spin! : December 9th 2009.

A mysterious giant spiral of light that dominated the sky over Norway has stunned experts, who believe the space spectacle is an entirely new astral phenomenon. Thousands of awe-struck Norwegians bombarded the Meteorological Institute to ask what the incredible light that could be seen in the pre-dawn sky for hundreds of miles could possibly be. The phenomenon has been dubbed 'Star-Gate' as the world's top scientists and the military lined up to admit they were baffled. Theories ranging from a misfired Russian missile, meteor fireball, never-before-seen type of northern light, 'black hole' and even alien activity were all proposed. Witnesses across Norway, who first glimpsed the space show at 8.45am, all described seeing a spinning 'Catherine wheel-style' spiral of white light, centred around a bright moon-like star. A blue "streaming tail" appeared to anchor the spiral to earth, before the light "exploded" into a rotating ring of white fire.

The spiral spectacle which lasted for two minutes was seen by vast swathes of the Scandinavian country's almost five million population, with sightings as far north as Finnmark to Trondelag in the south. Totto Eriksen, from Tromso, in northern Norway, was one of the thousands who bombarded Norwegian newspapers with sightings after nearly crashing his car on spotting the spiral overhead. He said: "I was driving my daughter to school when this light spun and exploded in the sky. "We saw it from the Inner Harbour in Tromso. It looked like a rocket that spun around and around and then went diagonally across the heavens. "It looked like the moon was coming over the mountain but then turned into something totally different....

The story continues on the next page...



UK UFO SIGHTINGS



Eastcoat, London.

I took this picture of a rainbow on December 12, 2009, and when I put it on a PC later I saw a metallic blob just below the rainbow. I didn't notice it when I took the photo. This blob was not on the photo that I took seconds later. I see plenty of planes in this area but never anything like this.



Runcorn.

December 12th 2009 : 10.45pm.

My son and I where looking at Orion in the southern sky, from Lilac Crescent, Runcorn. We noticed a large orange ball which was sat at about 100yards away from us at about a 30 degree angle. A smaller bright light passed too but this 'may' have been a helicopter though we heard no noise, we were in the garden at the time. The larger ball just sat there, there was a slight mist so I assumed it may have been a planet maybe Venus and we were discussing this at length for about 10 minutes. We could still clearly see it and it was not moving as I stood in the same spot throughout and it was directly above a TV aerial. I was just beginning to think it could be a ufo and we flashed a torch at a few times, it then it suddenly just disappeared. I was not a planet cause they dont just suddenly disappear. This object by my reckoning was in the area above Grangeway youth centre so I'm hoping someone else may have seen it.

Shrewsbury.

I was driving back towards Shrewsbury at about 8 PM on November 30, 2009, and as I past the turn for the village of Clive I noticed a very bright light over Grinshill Hill. There was a large disc shaped object that had what looked like a bite taken out of it. I reckon it was about 40-50feet across and omitted red, yellow, orange and blue lights and had a dark circle in its centre. I couldn't hear any noise and it just sort of hung there for several minutes. It then suddenly flipped over and shot off with a red flash to the west. I did notice helicopters operating to the east which were probably from RAF Shawbury.

Colshaw Estate, Wilmslow.

12th December 2009 : I was walking onto the estate last night, i always look towards Handforth way into the sky, so doing that and noticed 1 orange light at first, then as i got on to Blackden Walk i notice that there was a 2nd, my cousin didn't notice them but as i was in the garden i watched the 1st one shoot off behind the clouds, very intrested to see if anyone else saw these, definatley NOT chinese lanterns, no noise from them at all, also told of 4 over Trafford at the same time.

Sale, Cheshire.

December 10th 2009 : I looked outside my back door and saw a very slow moving pink/purple light in the sky. I watched it for about two minutes before it just disappeared. It was in the sky south of sale.

Ministry of Defence axe UFO 'X Files' bureau.



It is a disappearance almost worthy of Mulder and Scully. After almost 60 years investigating the UFO threat over Britain - the MoD 'X Files' bureau has been axed.

Earlier this week the UK Ministry of Defence quietly cut their hotline for members of the public to report UFO sightings, and it wasn't because no-one was calling the line has received more than 12,000 UFO and alien reports since it was launched in 1950, including 135 last year.

The reports were all investigated and despite the MoD admitting that five percent could not be explained, they say they do not think they are worth investigating any more. So what do you think, is this part of a cover-up, have they already made contact with aliens so no longer need the sighting reported... or have we been watching too many sci-fi movies?

A message on the Mod website reads: "In over fifty years, no UFO report has revealed any evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom. "There is no Defence benefit in such investigation and it would be an inappropriate use of defence resources. Furthermore, responding to reported UFO sightings diverts MOD resources from tasks that are relevant to Defence."

MOD Announcement.



The MOD has no opinion on the existence or otherwise of extra-terrestrial life. However, in over fifty years, no UFO report has revealed any evidence of a potential threat to the United Kingdom.

The MOD has no specific capability for identifying the nature of such sightings. There is no Defence benefit in such investigation and it would be an inappropriate use of defence resources. Furthermore, responding to reported UFO sightings diverts MOD resources from tasks that are relevant to Defence.

Accordingly, and in order to make best use of Defence resources, we have decided that from the 1 December 2009 the dedicated UFO hotline answer-phone service and e-mail address will be withdrawn.

MOD will no longer respond to reported UFO sightings or investigate them. The ongoing programme to release Departmental files on UFO matters to the National Archive will continue.

MAPIT's long thought out statement that reflects our professionalism and objectiveness in response to the MOD Announcement is...

WHAT A LOUD OF CROCK!



"People just stopped and stared on the pier - it was like something from a Hollywood movie." Axel Berg, from Alta, also in the north of the country, added: "It was like a giant spiral a shooting star that spun around and around. "I initially thought it was a projector but then the 'tail light' left and the spiral remained spinning still." Norway's most celebrated astronomer, Knut Jorgen Roed Odegaard, said he had never seen anything like the spiral before. "This was seen over an exceptionally large area of the country in all of north Norway and the Trondelag. "My first thought was that it was a fireball meteor but it lasted far too long. "It may have been a missile from Russia but I can't guarantee that is the answer. "I rang the Air Traffic Control tower in Tromse. They said it was over in two minutes. To me, that is far too long for this to be an astronomical phenomenon. "This spiral shape is unique. It is definitely not a variation of the aurora borealis northern lights." Chief Scientist Erik Tandberg, at the Norwegian Space Centre, said that he too was "totally amazed" by the spiral. He agreed with many other experts that the spiral pattern could have been caused by a missile from Russia something the Russian military have strongly denied.

Dr. Tandberg said: "I agree with everyone in the science community that this light was the weirdest thing. I have never seen anything like this ever. "It may have been anything from an exploding missile whose launch went wrong - to a comet or other celestial object that for some reason has been behaving strangely. "If it was a missile most likely from the launch base in Pletsevsik in Russia or one of the Russian submarines or even from the European Space Agency base in Kiruna then we are talking about a rocket launch that has gone wrong. "The spiral suggests the object came off course and balance and entered the spiral movement. Leaking rocket fuel could account for the blue light. "But I know that the military have denied this explanation. So we could be looking at an entirely new natural phenomenon." Meanwhile, Nick Pope, former UFO analyst for the Ministry of Defence, yesterday added that the Norwegian sighting was a "real mystery". He said: "My first thought was this was a meteor, a fireball, or debris from an old satellite burning up in the earth's atmosphere. "But the spiral motion makes this unlikely. This is truly bizarre. It's a real mystery. "A meteor or a fireball would simply travel in a straight line but for something to spiral in this way appears to go against the laws of physics. "Some may think it is the Northern Lights but they illuminate the sky with a green glow. "This is completely different from any image of the Northern Lights that I have ever seen. "It's ironic that something like this should happen the very week after the MoD terminated its UFO project. It just goes to show how wrong that decision was."

The Latest News on the Spiral!

Main stream Media Fox, CNN, etc. claim it was a Russian Missile that went astray. One day before President Obama arrives in Norway to receive his Nobel Peace Prize.? At first no countries admitted having fired any missiles or rockets. As a spokesman for the Russian Military said we do not know what it is. Later Russia released a statement saying the photos show a missile being fired at the spiral before it exploded in the upper atmosphere. Then the Russians released another statement was that a test shot was fired from a submarine in the White Sea and surrounding nations were were warned to stay out of the area. However Norwegian Defense claims they were never warned of any such event and no missile showed up on their radars. A missile fired at night does not produce spirals as this even when tumbling out of control. The Northern Fleet said we knew nothing of this event also... The Mystery Remains.



A Brit described the terrifying moment he thought the world would end as a huge explosion lit up the Norwegian sky. Expat Ron Payne, 30, is convinced the mystery astral phenomenon which blazed across the Norwegian skies yesterday morning was a military missile which could have wiped out the earth.

He said he has been left shocked and scared after seeing the massive blue trail followed by a silent explosion and pulsing circular shockwaves.

Ron, a car parts fitter, was driving to work along a fjord in the north of the country when cars started pulling off the road in front of him. He described how he jumped out of his car and turned round and could only watch mouth open in horror as he thought a nuclear missile had been shot into the sky. He said: "I've lived here for two years and I've seen the northern lights. This wasn't anything natural. "The blue trail looked like it had definitely come from earth'.

"At its tip there was a burning ball like a Catherine wheel with sparks flying out from it. It was two or three miles wide in the sky and seemed to be about 2,000 feet up. "It seemed to be burning so intensely with circular waves pulsing from the middle. "The atmosphere around it was really dense. It was like watching a documentary about an atom bomb or a nuclear explosion.

"I'm convinced this was something like a military mistake, it's not a UFO or a Stargate or anything like that." Ron was driving from his home he shares with his wife and kids in Hansnes on the island of Ringvassoya to work in the northern city of Tromsø when it happened. Norway is plunged into almost total darkness at this time of year with only sunlight at midday and he said that on the pitch black fjord coast road he was on, the light took over the whole sky.

Ron, originally from Wednesbury, in the West Midlands, said: "The pictures just didn't do it justice. It was totally unreal and I've not been able to get it out of my head. "We just stood there terrified, it was like nothing you've ever seen. "All the energy from it seemed projected away from the atmosphere as if it had definitely come from earth. "Whatever it was, I am sure it had left the surface of earth and had been launched - a rocket or something."

Thousands of awe-struck Norwegians bombarded the Meteorological Institute to ask what the incredible light that could be seen in the pre-dawn sky for hundreds of miles could possibly be. The phenomenon has been dubbed 'Star-Gate' as the world's top scientists and the military lined up to admit they were baffled.

Thousands have logged on to our website to see footage of the phenomenon. There has been speculation that the blue trail could have been caused by a stray Russian missile but Kremlin authorities have denied the light was caused by them.

A mysterious 'UFO' seen in the sky over Moscow has sparked speculation that the city has been visited by an alien spacecraft.

The pyramid-shaped object was said to have remained for hours over the Red Square in the Russian capital. The fuzzy grey shape was apparently captured on film in at least two separate videos - one filmed during the daytime and another at night - which became an online sensation. But sceptics suggested there would be thousands of videos, rather than just two, if the object really had remained in the skies for hours. Russian police have not commented on the alleged sightings.



The reports of the pyramid come just days after an alleged Russian missile launch set off a spate of UFO sightings in Norway. The dramatic light spiral seen over the north of the country prompted theories that it was caused by a meteor, the Northern Lights or even aliens. However, Russia later revealed that its test-firing of a new intercontinental missile had ended in failure - at the same time as observers witnessed the early morning light show.

People Magazine Daily

Witnesses Claim Alien UFO Landing in Barstow, CA.

Residents of Barstow, CA are claiming there was an unidentified flying object (UFO) landing on a local highway on Saturday, Dec. 12, which has been sparking internet forum postings. The sighting was called to our attention by a reader Eric. A relative of a witness reported on an internet forum Godlikeproductions.com about the sighting Saturday at 1:20 pm EST: "My sister just received a call from her stepson from Barstow who attested that a UFO landed on one of the major highways there (presumably Interstate 40 or 15). The UFO was surrounded by a team of black cars. Witnesses are questioning whether this is a Government UFO or the 'real thing.' My sister is waiting for a return call from her stepson. I'll give more details as they arrive."



Today the same person, maya2012, wrote back to the forum after hearing more information from the sister: "Her nephew called today. Apparently, the UFO landed (or crashed) off the road early in the morning when it was still dark outside. The police and black cars arranged themselves so that their headlights were facing outward, making it difficult for people to see what was happening. My nephew's coworker took two pictures but they came out somewhat blurry. He stated that you could partially see the UFO in one picture. My nephew doesn't have the pictures, his coworker does. We're still trying to get them. A large military transport was brought in to take the UFO back to the nearby military base." Whether the UFO was an alien spacecraft or a military plane is unknown. If the UFO claims are true, there will probably be other Barstow residents reporting the sighting soon since it was on a highway...



UFO Video - Tepec, Mexico : December 10th 2009.

Here is another video that you should have a look at. Yes, it comes from youtube, and there is not a lot of information available, unless you speak Spanish. This is one of my pet peeves with youtube videos, often there is just not enough information on a video to make any kind of judgement on the character of the witness, and nothing much on location, time, date, etc. That being said, the video clearly shows a UFO that certainly looks real. What we do know for sure is that the video was taken in the city of Tepec, Mexico, by one Pedro

Hernandez, who also appears in the video. Check it out, and comment as you see fit. The video can be viewed on You Tube at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=daQL0Bc72Ww>



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HUGE ARTWORK!

December 17th 2009.

Sand artist Jim Denevan created the **Three Mile** wide "piece" - the world's biggest work of art - in Nevada's Black Rock desert.

It can be seen from 40,000ft and has been wowing airline passengers heading into San Francisco. Virgin chief Sir Richard Branson has even phoned Jim to congratulate him.

The US artist, 48, took 15 days to complete the work, helped by four colleagues.

They painstakingly built up the massive circular patterns by dragging a 6ft-wide roll of chain fencing through the sand with a truck. The thickest lines are 28ft wide.

Jim, who planned the project for two years, said: "We had to dig out each line four or five times to mould it into the sand. It was tough, tiring, but fun."

He is hoping it will be a stepping stone to his ultimate dream - to co-operate with NASA to create art on the plains of **MARS**.



LARGEST SNOW FORMATION REPORTED NEAR HOEVEN, HOLLAND.

December 19, 2009

By Nancy Talbott

BLT Research Team Inc.

At around 11:30pm (Netherlands time) on the night of December 17th I had called the young Dutch medium Robbert van den Broeke in Holland, and we talked until about 1:30 – 2:00 am (Netherlands time) about various things. Toward the end of our conversation Robbert said he felt that some circles might be coming in the snow...and I got the impression, based on my past experiences with Robbert (<http://www.blresearch.com/robbert/php>), that this was likely to occur before Christmas.

The next evening (Friday, Dec. 18th) at around midnight Robbert got a very strong feeling that a formation was arriving at a field not too far from his home which we call the "special" field (because so many anomalous events have occurred there over the years). He telephoned a local friend, Ellen Gomis, to ask if she would drive him to the field to see if there was a new circle present, and Ellen agreed. It was very cold and there were several inches of snow on the ground.

When they arrived at around 1:00 am (Saturday, Dec. 19th) Robbert immediately felt what he described to me as a quiet, very still, "holy" feeling and heard what he could best describe as a choir of "angels" singing. I asked Robbert if Ellen heard this, too, but he said "no", it was only he who heard the "singing." As they walked down from the dike both Ellen and Robbert saw multiple rings which had been scooped out of the snow-covered field.

Because it was dark, and very very cold, Robbert and Ellen did not stay long to inspect the field. The next day (Saturday, December 19th) Robbert and Roy Boschman returned and could then see the entire formation—but Robbert is not certain that all of the rings were present the night before. He thinks that perhaps more rings were added after he and Ellen left late Friday night.



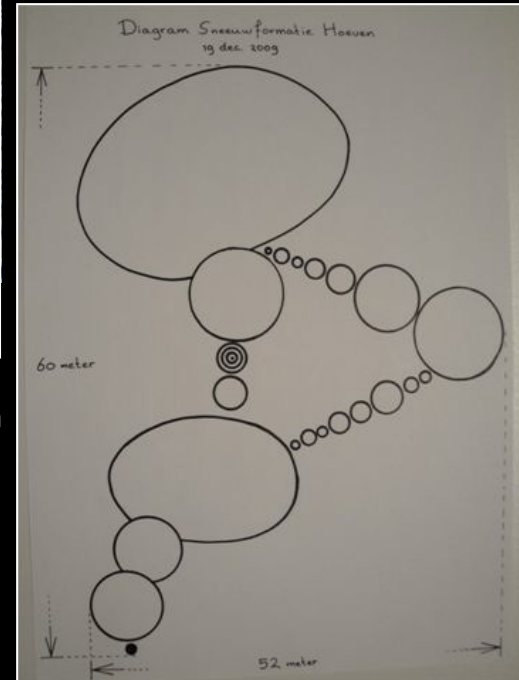
A 60m x 52m snow formation, made up of 23 rings of various diameters, was found on December 19th near Hoeven, Holland. Photo: Roy Boschman.



Note that the snow which has been removed to create the rings is not piled up around the edges, it is simply missing altogether. Photo: Roy Boschman.

When Roy and Robbert got to the field in daylight on the 19th no footsteps were visible except near the edges of the formation closest to the dike, where Robbert and Ellen had walked the night before.

There were no footprints at all out in the rest of the field, or in any of the rings farther out in the field. And there were also no piles of the snow which had apparently been removed anywhere in the field.



No footprints were found anywhere in the field, other than those near the dike where Robbert and Ellen had stood the night before. (To the Right)... Roy Boschman's diagram of the 23-ring snow formation. It is Roy's impression that the two largest rings were elliptical, as indicated in his diagram, above. Roy also noted the extreme cold of the previous night (during which the rings appeared), the lack of footprints, and the fact that the "missing" snow is not piled up anywhere in, or anywhere near, the formation, all of which seem to rule out mechanical creation of the rings.

A more detailed report, with additional photos, will be posted on the BLT Research Team's web-site (<http://www.bltresearch.com>) shortly.



The Secret UFO Reports – Project Blue Book: The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects” is a 184 page book written originally by the former Head of the Air Force Project Blue Book and contains a huge amount of fascinating ‘inside’ information which would be of huge interest to any UFO

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The Limits of a Paper Trail.

By Nick Pope.

The declassification and release of the MoD's UFO files has provoked much interest and debate. Some people believe that the 'good stuff' will never be released - there are numerous exemptions to the Freedom of Information Act, covering areas such as "defence" and "national security".

Others believe the release shows MoD did little more than log the sightings. Some believe that the whole exercise is disinformation, while others have speculated that it's part of a campaign to prepare people for some big announcement about UFOs - often dubbed "Disclosure".

One popular myth is that the section where I worked was a 'shop window' and that the serious UFO research went on elsewhere. Some people have accused me of covering this up. Others have suggested that I was unaware of this. Both allegations are false and stem from a fundamental misunderstanding of the way in which government works, particularly in a Department such as MoD, where much of the business is highly classified.

The whole 'MoD didn't investigate UFOs' idea came from a tiny group of ufologists trying to downplay my role by implying that it was clerical and not investigative. Ironically, MoD itself put the record straight. Despite a historical reluctance to acknowledge that UFO sightings were investigated, one confirmation was given by the Under Secretary of State for Defence Don Touhig, in response to a Parliamentary Question asked by Norman Baker MP. The exchange was recorded in the 18 April 2006 edition of Hansard (the official record of parliamentary proceedings) and reads as follows:

"To ask the Secretary of State for Defence in what capacity Mr Nick Pope was employed by his Department between 1991 and 1994".

"From 1991 to 1994 Mr Pope worked as a civil servant within Secretariat (Air Staff). He undertook a wide range of secretariat tasks relating to central policy, political and parliamentary aspects of non-operational RAF activity. Part of his duties related to the investigation of unidentified aerial phenomena reported to the Department to see if they had any defence significance".



A further confirmation of MoD's investigative role came more recently, on 1st December 2009, as part of the MoD statement announcing the formal termination of their UFO project. The key part of the announcement, on the MoD website, stated:

"MoD will no longer respond to reported UFO sightings or investigate them". Use of the phrase "no longer" clearly indicates that the activities described are ones that were previously undertaken.

With the 'MoD didn't investigate UFOs' falsehood conclusively disproven, why did so many of the UFO sightings reported to MoD generate so little paperwork and why do so many of the 12,000 sightings reported to the Department result in little more than a brief summary of what was seen? The answer is simple. Despite what serial FOI requestors and searchers of official archives may believe, the paper trail only leads so far.

On most occasions, the lack of a paper trail is far from sinister. In relation to UFO sightings it may simply reflect the fact that the investigation quickly turned up a conventional explanation for what was seen. This happened in the vast majority of cases. The desk officer would attempt to correlate the UFO report with civil and military aircraft activity, weather balloon launches, astronomical phenomena, etc. This can be done by accessing various databases or contacting various organisations over the telephone.

When an explanation is found, the only documentation generated will be a polite letter back to the person who reported the sighting. On some occasions, however, the lack of a paper trail can be more sinister. An example of this was given in dramatic fashion in the late 2009, in part of the evidence given to Lord Chilcot's inquiry into the second Gulf War. Here is a quote from a media article (source: Daily Mail, 28th November 2009) concerning a memo from the Attorney General, Lord Goldsmith, which raised questions about the legality of the war:



The letter caused pandemonium in Downing Street. Mr Blair was furious. No10 told Lord Goldsmith he should never have put his views on paper, and he was not to do so again unless told to by Mr Blair. The reason was simple: if it became public, Lord Goldsmith's letter could make it impossible for Mr Blair to fulfil his secret pledge to back Mr Bush in any circumstances. More importantly, it could never be expunged from the record as copies were stored in No10 and in the Attorney General's office.

A source close to Lord Goldsmith said: 'He assumed, perhaps naively, that Blair wanted a proper legal assessment. No10 went berserk because they knew that once he had put it in writing, it could not be unsaid. They liked to do things with no note-takers, and often no officials, present. That way, there was no record. Everything could be denied.

For those wondering if that's really what happened, I should point out that as a freelance journalist myself, use of the phrase "a source close to" very often means that the person referred to has signed off the account of events, while not wanting it directly attributed to them.

I saw examples of such things many times in my 21 years at MoD. Such behaviour could take a number of forms. Sometimes it might involve an official chairing a meeting glancing at the minute-taker and saying something like "and now, not for the minutes please ...". On other occasions it's simply that meetings weren't minuted at all. Post-FOI, officials are increasingly wary of creating lengthy strings of emails and will often opt for a face to face discussion instead.

So what does all this mean for ufologists? Am I implying that the UK government knows the truth about UFOs but that it won't be revealed? No. I am simply pointing out that the paper trail can lead you so far, but no further. This is true of most areas of government business. So the purpose of this article is to point out that while much useful material can be obtained from the National Archives or from FOI requests, it does not - and can never - tell the full story.

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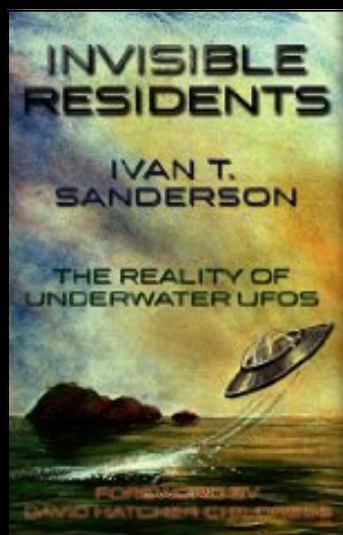


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BOOK REVIEW.



A unique contribution to the study of the UFOs, originally published over 30 years ago, this updated edition includes new photographs and illustrations, and an extensive Foreword by David Hatcher Childress discussing more recent Underwater UFOs - now called USOs - Unidentified Submersible Objects. In the last 30 years, new sightings have occurred and new information on old sightings has come forth through the Freedom of Information Acts in the USA, Britain and Australia.

These curious incidents during official military manoeuvres raise many questions: Do the British and Americans have underwater military bases capable of launching UFOs? Could the ultimate docking stations for some of the UFOs seen constantly around the world be deep in our oceans? Could these still-operational underwater docking bases have been built in our distant past by extraterrestrials? Sanderson chronicles hundreds of curious unidentified underwater object incidents, many which emerge from the water to fly through the air, and draws some startling conclusions.

This is a crucial book for those fascinated by the Ufo mystery, or Cryptozoology. It is also a classic of Fortean literature. Sanderson who died in 1973 was a naval intelligence officer during WW2 and coined the term "Cryptozoology".

The observational premise and the starting point of this book is that by far and away the majority of Ufos are seen near bodies of water, often entering and leaving the water. Sanderson collected hundreds of case studies some of which are tabulated at the back of the book. He emphasises that the hydrosphere covers most of the Earth and that this is, quite uniquely, a "water planet". Sanderson calculates the enormous volume of the hydrosphere where unknown craft may be lurking, compared to the tiny amount of inhabited land. He also points out how narrow are the shipping lanes and air corridors, where sightings originate. There are studies of cases where ships and aircraft have disappeared over the sea, and others where only the humans on board have inexplicably disappeared. Sanderson has collected a good deal of data concerning vortices, and the strange phenomena that they can produce, perhaps the OINTS (Other Intelligences) have mastered their power. The book is full of open-minded speculation, which is the basis for truly scientific hypotheses; he collects all of the data however bizarre it might seem. Perhaps Sanderson does not reveal everything that he knows. He does not rule out the possibility that some of the Ufos, Usos or Uaos as he calls them are produced by humans, he "speculates" that there may be underwater bases hollowed out of undersea mountains and continental masses. Nothing can be ruled out. By the end of the book however, the reader is convinced that Sanderson really does believe in non-human technologically superior OINTS which have created a civilisation under the seas and oceans. He also possesses case studies of Uaos diving into rivers and lakes. This aquatic civilisation or civilisations could have evolved throughout the geological ages or it may have come here from elsewhere in the universe.... £14.50 at all good book stores.

The Graveyard Shift.

By Steve Mera.

Recently myself and several other investigators headed off to a suspected haunted graveyard to conduct a series of photographic experiments. Our theory was that unusual environmental energies adversely affect camera film, thus showing unusual white formings, globes of light and strange mist which none are apparently visible at the time of exposure. We arrived at the church in darkness, grabbed our camera gear and set off for the graveyard. I'd be lying if I said it didn't seem spooky nor give me a shiver up my spine. May be it was all those Stephen King books I'd been reading. The graveyard was terribly overgrown with grass and was in need of a serious seeing to; so much so, that it was difficult to locate some of the grave stones.



We eventually found a small path of trampled grass somewhere in the centre of the graveyard. Cameras were positioned and flashes at the ready. Everyone took photographs from different locations for about an hour or two, after which, we headed back home, eager to get the photographs produced and to see if anything unusual turned out on them.

I don't have many paranormal photographs to my name, even though I've been investigating many cases and been in suspected paranormal environments quite a number of times. I have about five or six to show for six years of investigations. Others investigators however, can obtain nine or ten photographs on one film, even though in the same location as myself and taken photographs of the same places. What's going on ? Could it be that the photographers are somehow fully or partially responsible for such alleged paranormal photos. May be it a form of thoughtography; that certain environmental energies can somehow focus through the photographer and onto their camera film. It has always been difficult to explain why certain investigators seem to obtain so many unusual photographs and his associate not to obtain any. We have tried to fabricate paranormal photographs as part of our rationalising methods, to see if it is in fact possible. We have photographed camera straps, fingers in front of the camera lens, smoke, hot air, bubbles, and even man with a white sheet over his head.....

Well.... all but the last anyway. None seem to have the same visual conditions. Paranormal photographs have been occurring for many years and I can honestly say that its going to be a long time before anyone comes up with a good theory that can account for the thousands upon thousands of photographs world wide. The wait was over and I got my photographs back. For some unknown reason most exposures were only half visible, obscured by a black band that stretched right through the centre of the photo. However, not all were like that.



Some exposures However; showed strange markings, in the centre of the film and the odd one or two at the end were fine, this is what makes the fault a little unusual, as surely al would have been affected. On exposure 14 was a photograph of the gravestones and some strange mist or lighting phenomena could be seen.

This very well could be my seventh possible anomaly caught on film. Shame it wasn't a full photograph. Another photograph which had the black band through the centre of it also had a peculiar light forming on it. I could not locate where the light source was coming from nor remember any such lights apart from our individual camera flashes, which I should state, went off individually and not at the same time as others. The strange light may be contributed by the lens somehow, but at this time, this is only a guess. An enlargement can be seen to the right I've been recently informed that an other investigator may also have an anomaly on film. A second trip will be planned and we will continue to inform you of our findings. For now the mystery remains...





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